

# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO
10/724,496	11/28/2003	Donald G. Mikolai	201-0911	9985
7590 09/01/2004			EXAMINER	
Ernest E. Helms			GUTMAN, HILARY L	
Dykema Gosset	t			
Suite 300		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
39577 Woodward Avenue			3612	
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304			DATE MAIL ED: 00/01/2004	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)				
Office Action Summary	10/724,496	MIKOLAI ET AL.				
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit				
	Hilary Gutman	3612				
The MAILING DATE of this communication app Period for Reply	ears on the cover sheet with the c	orrespondence address				
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13 after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.  - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period w  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	i6(a). In no event, however, may a reply be time within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days fill apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from a cause the application to become ABANDONE	ely filed will be considered timely. the mailing date of this communication. 0 (35 U.S.C. § 133).				
Status						
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on						
2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This	This action is FINAL. 2b)⊠ This action is non-final.					
3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is						
closed in accordance with the practice under E	x parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 45	3 O.G. 213.				
Disposition of Claims						
4)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-21</u> is/are pending in the application.						
4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.						
5) Claim(s) is/are allowed.						
6)⊠ Claim(s) <u>6 and 18-21</u> is/are rejected.						
7)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-5 and 7-17</u> is/are objected to.						
8) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or	election requirement.					
Application Papers						
9)⊠ The specification is objected to by the Examine	r.					
10)⊠ The drawing(s) filed on <u>28 November 2003</u> is/are: a) accepted or b)⊠ objected to by the Examiner.						
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).						
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correcti	on is required if the drawing(s) is obj	ected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).				
11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Ex	aminer. Note the attached Office	Action or form PTO-152.				
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119						
12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign  a) All b) Some * c) None of:  1. Certified copies of the priority documents  2. Certified copies of the priority documents  3. Copies of the certified copies of the prioring application from the International Bureau  * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of	s have been received. s have been received in Application ity documents have been receive (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).	on No d in this National Stage				
Attachment(s)	_					
<ol> <li>Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</li> <li>Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</li> <li>Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)         Paper No(s)/Mail Date     </li> </ol>	4)  Interview Summary Paper No(s)/Mail Da 5)  Notice of Informal Pa 6)  Other:					

#### **DETAILED ACTION**

#### Oath/Declaration

1. The oath or declaration is defective. A new oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.67(a) identifying this application by application number and filing date is required. See MPEP §§ 602.01 and 602.02.

The oath or declaration is defective because: Non-initialed and/or non-dated alterations have been made to the oath or declaration. See 37 CFR 1.52(c).

#### **Drawings**

2. The drawings are objected to because:

In Figure 4 there are two identical reference number "28" and only one is apparently needed. In addition, in Figure 4, the lowermost "28" does not have a lead line.

In Figure 5, reference number 46 does not have a lead line.

In Figure 6, reference number "64" should apparently be "74".

In Figure 9, reference number "84" should apparently be "82".

In Figure 13, the lead line for number "80" is not pointing to the slot pin. Also number 106 has no lead line.

In Figure 21, reference number 94 should perhaps be "59" and number 96" should apparently be "78".

In Figure 27, the lowermost reference number "250" and its lead line should be deleted altogether.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate

prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency.

Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

3. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference character "270" has been used to designate both a reinforcing panel as seen in Figure 29 and the motor in Figure 27.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required

corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

4. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: 52, 105. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

## Specification

5. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

On page 7, [0045], line 3, "Figure 8" should apparently be "Figure 13".

Furthermore, the "first angular counterclockwise direction" does not appear to be shown in the drawing figures. At line 7, "62" should be "72".

On page 7, at [0046], line 8, "48" should be "46".

On page 8, at [0049], line 1, "120" should be "118".

On page 8, at [0050], line 8, "48" should be "46".

On page 9, at [0053], line 1, "24" should be "22".

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On page 9, at [0054], lines 5-6, "motor 270" is disclosed but later at [0055], specifically line 2, the same reference number is used to describe the "reinforcement panel". This is inappropriate and confusing since only one reference number should be used to represent each feature of the invention. Appropriate correction is required.

## Claim Objections

6. Claims 1, 10, 19, and 20 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In claim 1, on line 9, "said door" should be "said second door". On line 9, "on and adjacent said first door" should perhaps be deleted. On line 10, after "having" perhaps "adjacent said first door" should be inserted.

In claim 10, on line 2, "an interior" should perhaps be "the interior". On line 4, "an exterior" should perhaps be "the exterior".

In claim 19, on line 12, "said door" should be "said second door". On line 19, "said door" should be "said second door". On line 21, "said" should be inserted before "aligned window openings".

In claim 20, line 5, "an exterior" should be "the exterior".

Appropriate correction is required.

# Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

7. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

8. Claims 6 and 18-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 6 recites the limitation "a latch connection" in lines 1-2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

In claim 18, line 1, "an insert type" is unclear as to what specific type of door the applicant intends to recite.

Claim 19 recites the limitation "said second door extreme end" in line 9. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 20 recites the limitation "said second door extreme end" in line 3. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

## Double Patenting

9. A rejection based on double patenting of the "same invention" type finds its support in the language of 35 U.S.C. 101 which states that "whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process ... may obtain a patent therefor ..." (Emphasis added). Thus, the term "same invention," in this context, means an invention drawn to identical subject matter. See *Miller v. Eagle Mfg. Co.*, 151 U.S. 186 (1894); *In re Ockert*, 245 F.2d 467, 114 USPQ 330 (CCPA 1957); and *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970).

A statutory type (35 U.S.C. 101) double patenting rejection can be overcome by canceling or amending the conflicting claims so they are no longer coextensive in scope. The filing of a terminal disclaimer <u>cannot</u> overcome a double patenting rejection based upon 35 U.S.C. 101.

10. Claim 14 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claim 13. When two claims in an application are duplicates or else are so close in content that they both cover the same thing, despite a slight difference in wording, it is proper after allowing one claim to object to the other as being a substantial duplicate of the allowed claim. See MPEP § 706.03(k).

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# Allowable Subject Matter

11. Claims 1-5 and 7-17 are objected to as containing minor informalities but would be allowable if rewritten to overcome these objections set forth above.

- 12. Claims 6 and 18 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
- 13. Claims 19-21 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

#### Conclusion

- 14. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.
- 15. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hilary Gutman whose telephone number is 703-305-0496.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenn Dayoan can be reached on 703-308-3102. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

#### 16. Any response to this action should be mailed to:

**Assistant Commissioner for Patents** 

Washington, D.C. 20231

#### or faxed to:

(703) 872-9326, (for formal communications intended for entry)

or:

(703) 746-3515, (for informal or draft communications, please clearly label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT").

Hillery Gutman August 30, 2004